



# ST. JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

230 Humbercrest Blvd. Toronto, ON M6S 4L3

Telephone: 416-393-5275 Fax: 416-393-5046

# CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

## OCTOBER 2020



Joanne Saragosa

**PRINCIPAL** ↻

John Wujek 416-222-8282 Ext 5371

**SUPERINTENDENT** ↻

Teresa Lubinski 416-512-3410

**TRUSTEE** ↻

St. James Catholic Church 416-767-6451

721 Annette Street, Toronto, ON M6S 2E2

**PARISH** ↻

Lourdes Sousa, Chair

**CSPC CHAIR** ↻

[www.tcdsb.org/cpic](http://www.tcdsb.org/cpic)

**CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB)** ↻

[www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto](http://www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto)

**OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS)** ↻

128	9:00-3:30 pm	11:45-12:45
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<b>ENROLLMENT</b>	<b>HOURS OF OPERATION</b>	<b>LUNCH HOUR</b>
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## we BECOME

Following the Great Commission of Christ in the Gospel of Matthew – “Go and make disciples of all nations”, we shall focus on our vocation as people called to Christian discipleship, to service and to mission.

Our vocation is defined by our belonging as members of God’s family and by what we believe. Our belonging and our beliefs define what we become in the world and in our environment and invite us to become all God has created us to be. Just as the tree’s branches bear fruit and provide shelter, the Holy Spirit stirs us to use our gifts in joy to meet the world’s greatest need. By creating and redeeming us, God is inviting us to become vessels of unity, witnesses to communion, and agents of reconciliation to the world.

At the heart of our pastoral plan is Christ himself. We experience each aspect of this pastoral plan, belonging, believing and becoming, in our celebration of the holy Eucharist. We gather as family, we celebrate our faith, and we are sent out into the world to “live the gospel by our very lives.”



**ROOTED  
IN CHRIST**

*"Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, abounding in thanksgiving." - Colossians 2:6b-7*

**we BELONG we BELIEVE we BECOME**

Toronto Catholic District School Board

2018 - 2021

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## ST. JAMES CS STAFF LIST 2020-2021



Principal	J. Saragosa
Secretary	A. Krol
Educational Assistants	M. Figiel, Y. Nucaro
Lunchtime Supervisors	J. Garro, A. Apalit, TBA
Office Supervisor	V. Attard
JK/SK Kindergarten	R. Tsuruoka
ECE JK/SK Kindergarten	K. Remondini
Gr. 1/2	S. Martins/J. Bugeja
Gr. 2/3	H. James
Gr. 3 / 4	S. Costanzo
Gr 5 / 6	A. Virginillo
Gr. 6/7	N. DiLella
Gr. 8	T. Barber
Sp. Ed.	J. Pascucci
ESL	G. Prestia/ R. Granata
Library	M. Montagnese Ruffolo
Gifted Program	M. Tavares/A. Santilli
French	G. Bodnar
Phys. Ed.	V. Dos Santos/T. Siaciulis
Vocal Music	S. Demski
Instrumental Music	D. Lambert
Guidance	F. Amato
Social Worker	S. Hogg-Silva
APT	S. Burgher
SLP	L. Paidock
Head Caretaker	A. Di Sarra
Night Caretaker	A. Bianchi

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## CSPC – Annual General Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2020 @ 6 pm

## CSPC – Executive Elections

Thursday, October 13, 2020 @ 6 pm

If you are interested in attending either or both of these meetings, please contact [joanne.saragosa@tcdsb.org](mailto:joanne.saragosa@tcdsb.org)

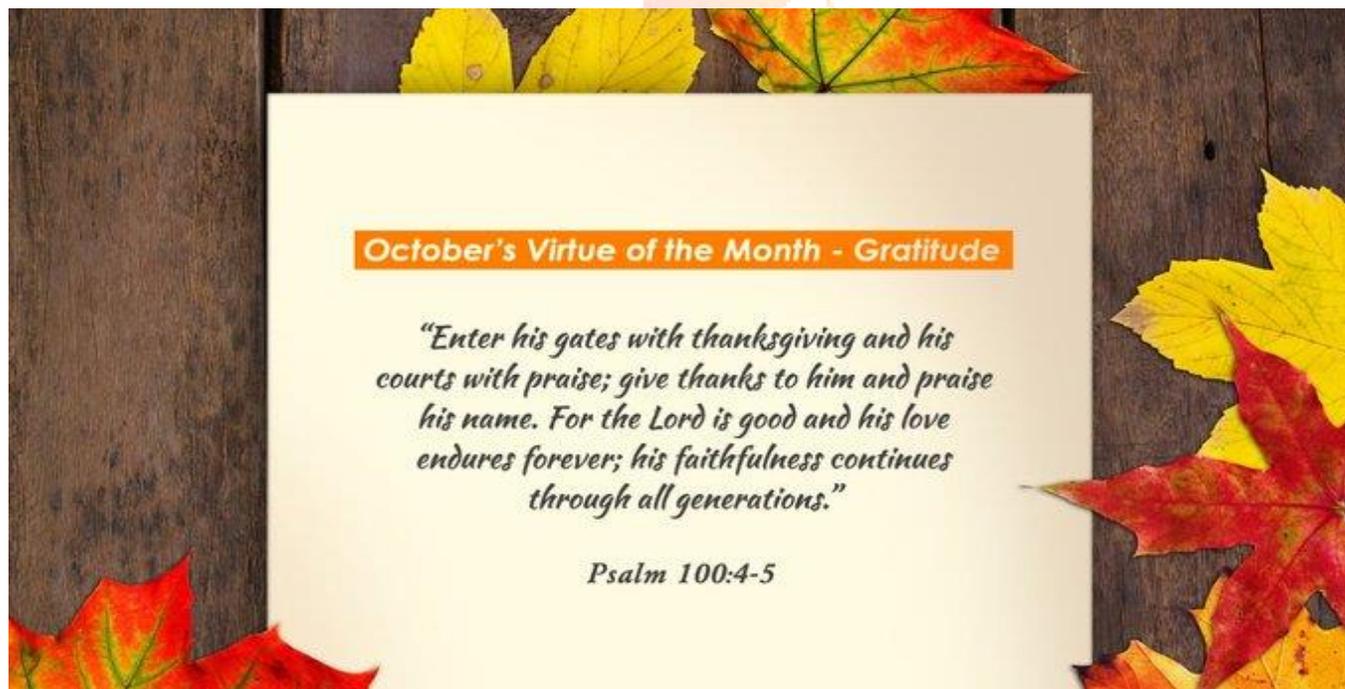
We look forward to hearing from you!

## Safe Arrival - Reporting your Child's Absences/Lates

At the TCDSB, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each and every day.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these three convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1 (833) 251-3286 to report an absence using the automated phone system.



September 29, 2020

Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

**Re: Updates from Toronto Public Health**

We will continue to update you on changes to COVID-19 protocols related to schools as the scientific evidence and policies change, and our local situation unfolds.

**Reduce the spread of COVID-19:** To address the rising case counts of COVID-19 in Toronto, everyone is reminded to adopt steps for self-protection:

- limit contact with anyone you don't live with, as much as possible
- keep at least six feet apart from people you don't live with, as much as possible
- wear a mask when outside your home, especially in indoor settings and when physical distancing is difficult
- wash your hands often
- stay at home when sick

**Students with symptoms:** Students who have symptoms are encouraged to be tested. If they have a negative result for COVID-19, they may return to school, once their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours. **If they do not get tested, they must self-isolate for 14 days. We have created a fact sheet, decision tool and some scenarios to help inform you.**

**COVID-19 Testing:** There are now many ways for children to be tested for COVID-19. The health care provider at the assessment centre will determine the most appropriate testing method for your child. It can include a deep nasal swab, a throat swab and swab of each nostril or a new saliva test. The saliva test is available at Women's College, Mount Sinai and Toronto Western Hospital assessment centres. It will be available at other assessment centres in the next few weeks.

**COVID-19 Assessment Centres** are for anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms, people who were in close contact with someone infected with the virus, and those directed by public health to get tested. Recently a number of pharmacies also provide COVID-19 testing if you do not have any COVID-19 symptoms and were not directed to go for testing from Toronto Public Health. For information and updated criteria for COVID-19 testing and where to get tested in Toronto, visit our COVID-19 Testing webpage.

**Postpone Grade 7/8 student immunizations:** To meet the anticipated high demand for flu vaccination this fall, the vaccination clinics for Grade 7/8 vaccines (hepatitis B, meningococcal and human papillomavirus) have been postponed to the new year. To avoid delays, parents can also ask their health care provider to vaccinate their children and to order the free vaccines directly from Toronto Public Health at [toronto.ca/ordervaccines](https://toronto.ca/ordervaccines).

**Flu vaccination clinics:** Toronto Public Health will be holding community flu vaccination clinics from mid-October until December. More information will be available soon to book an appointment at [tphbookings.ca](https://tphbookings.ca). For updated information, visit COVID-19 school information for parents & caregivers.

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## Guidance Corner – October

### Transition to Secondary School - SOAR

October will be a busy month for the grade 8 students as they begin the high school application process. Please note the important information below.

**Links provided below are in the process of being updated. If the information is last year's, please check back as updates will be made as they become available.**

- Secondary School Open Houses are going virtual. As soon as we receive dates, they will be passed along to your child through the grade 8 teacher.
- Download the [After 8 Transition Guide and the Transition Guide for Parents](#) by clicking on the provided link or Google Search After 8 TCDSB for a link to the page. Hard copies will not be printed this year, so you will have to access these resources online.
- Parent(s)/Guardians must ensure that the email connected to the TCDSB is up to date with an active account. This email will be used during the secondary school application process. Click on this link for a guide to help you navigate through the on-line applications, or in your browser, search TCDSB Secondary Admissions  
  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/AdmissionsandRegistration/Pages/Secondary-School-Online-Application-Process-.aspx>
- **Thursday, October 8, 2020** – Parents should check the email that you have connected with the TCDSB. You will be receiving an email containing a link to your child's application to high school. You may begin filling out secondary school applications at this time.
- **Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – This is the application deadline. This is a hard deadline for regional program applications (Arts, AP, IB, and S.T.E.A.M.). Beyond this date, regular program applications will be directed to wait lists.

### Creating Pathways to Success

Students from grades one to eight will be encouraged to use [www.myBlueprint.ca/tcdsb](http://www.myBlueprint.ca/tcdsb) as a tool to reflect on their growth throughout elementary school. Creating Pathways to Success asks that students think about: Who Am I? What Are My Opportunities? Who do I Want to Become? And What Are My Plans for Achieving My Goals?

Throughout the year, Intermediate students will be required to work on their Individual Pathways Plans (IPP) while students from grades one to six may have the opportunity develop their All About Me online Portfolios. Encourage your children to share their accounts with you. The site is fully accessible from home using your child's TCDSB username and password.

Mr. F. Amato  
TCDSB Elementary Teacher-Guidance Counsellor  
Zone 3  
St. Leo, St. Louis, The Holy Trinity  
Holy Angels, St. Josaphat, St. Mark  
St. Ambrose, St. Marcellus, St. Cecilia,  
James Culnan, St. James, St. Pius X





# Monthly Update from the Board

## October 2020

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### **COVID-19**

Toronto Public Health has updated some of the information related to the screening of students/staff with COVID-19 symptoms.

- Review the handy flowchart designed for schools <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/9858-COVID-19-Decision-Guide-for-Schools.pdf>
- Quick reference sheet for families: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/901a-What-to-do-if-your-child-has-Covid-19-Symptoms.pdf>.

Updates are continuously made to the **Frequently Asked Questions** section of the Board's website <https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/back-to-school/pages/faq.aspx>.

For information specifically about the virtual school (St. Anne Catholic Academy) please refer to <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/back-to-school/Pages/virtual-school.aspx>

**Log in issues and password reset: Students who need their passwords reset should contact their teacher for assistance.**

We also encourage families to visit the **latest updates** page for recent communications <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/back-to-school/Pages/latest-updates.aspx>

The **Return to School Action Plan** which is continually updated as information is added or revised. <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/back-to-school/Pages/reopening-plan.aspx>

Other resources including **mental health supports for students and their families** can be found here <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/back-to-school/Pages/resources.aspx>

#### **Get Updates on School Bus Service**

<https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Cancellations.aspx>

### PARENT OPPORTUNITIES & INFORMATION

#### **Safe Schools Advisory Committee: Parent Reps Needed**

TCDSB Seeks 2 Parent Reps for Safe School Advisory Committee. **Application deadline October 30, 2020**. [Click here for an application and more information.](#)

#### **CPIC Elections**

October 28 and 29, 2020

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/CPICElections/Pages/default.aspx>

#### **School Year Calendar for 2020-21**

<https://www.tcdsb.org/calendar/pages/schoolyearcalendar.aspx>

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INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES ELEMENTARY (ILE) PROGRAM - AFTER HOURS REGISTRATION  
[HTTPS://WWW.TCDSB.ORG/PROGRAMSERVICES/SCHOOLPROGRAMSK12/INTERNATIONALLANGUAGES/PAGES/SATURDAYSSCHOOLREGISTRATION.ASPX](https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/Pages/SaturdaySchoolRegistration.aspx)

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

### **WELCOMING NEWCOMERS TO TCDSB**

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is committed to the nurturing of a caring Catholic learning environment so that all students can feel empowered by what they are learning; supported by the teachers and staff from whom they are learning; and welcome in the environment in which they are learning. Newcomer students in grades 7 - 12 are invited to participate in the annual **Newcomer Student Leadership Conference** on **October 15, 2019**. For more information about the conference, visit the Conference [registration page](#).

### **Youth Drop-in Basketball Program**

Brown Community Recreation Centre, 454 Avenue Road  
Starting October 8, 2020  
Info: [Jodie.ferrante@toronto.ca](mailto:Jodie.ferrante@toronto.ca)

## EVENTS AND OBSERVANCES

### **October is...**

- **Autism Awareness Month**
- **Child Abuse Prevention Month**
- **Learning Disabilities Awareness Month**
- **Latin Hispanic Canadian Heritage Month**
- **Principals' Month**

#### **Recognition Days:**

- **October 2, 2020 Custodial Workers' Appreciation Day**
- **October 5, 2020 World Teachers' Day**
- **October 22, 2020 Early Childhood Educators and Childcare Worker Appreciation Day**

### **Other October Observances**

- **Rosary Day October 7, 2020**  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Rosary-Day.aspx>
- **National Catholic Healthcare Week, October 4-10, 2020**  
[http://www.chac.ca/NCHCW/index\\_e.php](http://www.chac.ca/NCHCW/index_e.php)
- **Walk to School Day October 7, 2020**  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/environment/transport/Pages/Walk-to-School-Month-.aspx>
- **World Mental Health Day October 10, 2020**  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/world-mental-health-day.aspx>
- **Thanksgiving October 12, 2020**
- **International Day for Eradication of Poverty October 17, 2020**  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/international-day-for-eradication-of-poverty.aspx>
- **School Bus Safety Week October 19-23, 2020**  
School bus driver appreciation day October 21, 2020
- **Take Me Outside Day October 21, 2020**  
<https://takemeoutside.ca/>